



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

WILLIAM P. STEARNS ET AL.

Serial No. 09/678,318 (TI-25833.1)

Filed October 3, 2000

For: OPTIMIZED CIRCUIT DESIGN LAYOUT FOR HIGH
PERFORMANCE BALL GRID ARRAY PACKAGES

Art Unit 2815

Examiner P. Brock, II

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

In response to the Office action dated June 21, 2001, the following remarks are presented:

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a Declaration of the undersigned clearly proving conception with diligence up to the reduction to practice of the subject invention prior to the filing date of Chiu et al. Accordingly, Chiu et al. is not available as a reference in this case, even were it an otherwise valid reference, which it is not.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 20 and 21 as being anticipated by Chiu et al. (U.S. 6,121,678) under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), the rejection of claims 3, 4, 22 and 23 as being unpatentable over Chiu et al. under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and the rejection of claims 5 to 8 and 24 to

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